

Ruling Congress is Trying to bring Fascism in the Country

Com. Ghosh's Brilliant Analysis of the Present Situation

The 24th of April is a day of historical significance. On this auspicious day, the Socialist Unity Centre of India, the only real Marxist-Leninist party of our country came into being 25 years ago ushering in a new era in the struggle of the oppressed people for their emancipation from the yoke of the capitalist exploitation.

The party cadres, supporters and sympathisers made extensive preparations for more than a month to prepare for the observance of the 25th anniversary of the SUCI. Workers, peasants, students, youths and women—in a word, people from all walks of life—were keenly interested in participating in the mammoth meeting held at the Sahid Minar Maidan on the 24th April last. It was a day of processions—processions from all directions converging to the Sahid Minar Maidan. Processions of workers, of peasants from different districts, of youths and students with colourful and decorative party banners and festoons paraded through the different streets of Calcutta, with slogans like SUCI Zindabad, Com. Shibdas Ghosh Zindabad, Socialist Revolution Zindabad, Workers of the World Unite

etc. and ultimately converged on the Maidan. From 3 pm., processions from different directions of Calcutta started arriving. A mile long beautifully decorated procession from South Calcutta and another one-and-a-half mile long procession from North Calcutta came to the Sahid Minar Maidan.

KOMSOMOL

But the greatest attraction of the day's rally was the colourful procession of the KOMSOMOL—the organisation of the young communists and pioneers of of the SUCI. A few hundred members of the KOMSOMOL in white uniform assembled at Subodh Mallick Square and from there paraded through Lenin Sarani, Chowringhee, Rani Rashmoni Road, Mayo Road and finally came to the Sahid Minar Maidan. The

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Com. Shibdas Ghose is addressing the mammoth gathering at the Sahid Minar maidan on 24th of April.



A portion of the huge gathering in front of the dias on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the party.

On the one Hand Organise United Movement of Left Democratic Parties and Forces and on the other Strengthen the Genuine Working Class Party by all means

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members of the KOMSOMOL, while marching through the different streets, raised slogans like "The great leader Com. Shibdas Ghose Zindabad," "SUCI Zindabad", "Hold high the lofty ideals of Marxism-Leninism" etc. Thousands of passers-by gave a spontaneous ovation to this procession of the KOMSOMOL.

Lakhs and lakhs of people congregated in the Sahid Minar Maidan long before the meeting started. As a matter of fact, the Sahid Minar Maidan was too small to accommodate the huge gathering and people were found, hearing the speeches even from the Surendranath Park. Even after the start of the meeting, many processions from different directions were found coming.

The dias also attracted no less. The red dias was just like a rising sun before the vast sea of humanity. In the back ground there were 25 red flags, with hammer sickle and star, symbolising the victories of the last twenty-five years of the party.

The Democratic Youth Organisation(DYO) presented the inaugural International song and then a minute's silence was observed in memory of those who became martyrs in the democratic movements and revolutionary struggles. The meeting was presided over by Com. Subodh Banerjee.

In his inaugural speech, Com. Nihar Mukherjee, Secretary of the West Bengal State Committee of the SUCI, congratulated the different sections of the toiling people and particularly the democratic-minded people of Calcutta for their sincere co-operation and contribution to make this

mammoth meeting a grand success. Com. Mukherjee narrated how the workers of the party were subjected to attacks by the anti-social elements of the Congress and the police and praised the former for counteracting these onslaughts in an exemplary way.

After Com. Mukherjee's speech, the members of the 'KOMSOMOL', decorated with red flags and banners presented a guard of honour to Com. Shibdas Ghosh, the beloved leader and teacher of our party. Standing on the dias, Com. Ghosh took the revolutionary greetings of the Communists for a considerable length of time.

Two resolutions, one on the international situation and the other on the national situation were adopted in the meeting. The resolution on international situation was moved by Com. Ashutosh Banerjee, one of the members of the West Bengal State Committee of the SUCI and the Secretary of the Calcutta District Committee of the party and seconded by Com. N. R. Singh, a member of the Bihar State Committee of the SUCI.

Com. Protiva Mukherjee, member of the West Bengal State Committee and Secretary of the Birbhum District Committee moved the resolution on national situation and Com. Gyan Singh Chowdhury, Secretary of the Haryana Organising Committee spoke in support of this resolution. These two important resolutions were unanimously adopted in the meeting.

Com. Ghosh's Speech

After the adoption of the two resolutions, Com. Shibdas Ghosh, one of the foremost Marxist thinkers of the age, rose to address the meeting when the vast sea of humanity congregated in Sahid Minar



The music squad of the DYO, presenting mass songs, on the dias.

Maidan gave a standing ovation to the great leader of the party with various slogans.

In a critically analytical speech, Com Ghosh dealt on the present national and international situation, the class character of Indian State, the stage of Indian revolution, the necessity of on the one hand developing mighty united movements of the left and democratic forces against reaction and vested interests and on the other hand strengthening the real working class party so as to ultimately secure the effective leadership of the working class party over the masses and their movements.

Com. Ghosh showed through an analysis of the national situation how the alarming unemployment problem, acute food problem, steep rise in prices, lock-outs, lay-off and dismissal in industries, these separatist tendencies, the crisis in morality etc.—all these vices were stemming from the present oppressive capitalist system. Com. Ghosh said that however much the ruling Congress might be attempting to shield the present real situation of the country from the masses through the various

false propaganda and the creation of confusion, the people were gradually realising the seriousness of the situation and falsity of the tall promises of the Congress leaders through their own experiences of life. He said that not only a section of the youths and the educated people were confused by the high-sounding demagoguery and tall promises of the Congress that this Congress was not the old Congress but a new one which would usher in socialism, remove poverty and do away with monopoly capitalism, but the big left parties like the CPI and the CPI(M) were also confused and befooled by such dangerous gimmicks.

Fascism—an all-out counter revolution

Com. Ghosh cited the history of the rise of fascism in different countries of the world and showed that it was not the conservative section but the so-called radical section of the bourgeoisie that by raising the slogan of democratic socialism and adopting certain social democratic measures, created confusion in mass mind and laid the economic foundation of fascism through

Emergence of the Leadership of the Genuine Working Class Party Over Masses and Mass Movements, Only Guarantee of Emancipation of People From Exploitation

coalescence of the state capital with the individual monopoly capital and subjugating the state to monopoly interests.

In the realm of culture, fascism suppressed the process of the development of scientific mental make-up by bringing about a peculiar fusion of spiritualism with the technological aspect of science and thereby the foundation of fascist culture was laid by implanting individualistic thinking, national jingoism, superstitions and other rotten obscurant ideas.

Fascism shattered even the limited rights and values of the bourgeois democracy and completely destroyed the relative neutrality of the administration. Com Ghosh said that fascism, in a word, was an all out counter-revolution.

He continued that, in the same path, the Congress under the leadership of Sm. Gandhi was attempting to bring about fascism in our country. But the big left parties like the CPI and the CPI(M) along with a section of so-called intellectuals of our country failed to realise the economic, social and cultural foundation of fascism and confused dictatorship or ruthless oppression—as fascism. They had completely failed to realise fascism in its totality. By such behaviour, these parties had not only proved their political bankruptcy but, by their mistaken political notions, directly and indirectly helped the path of fascism also.

To talk of Socialism keeping Capitalism intact —a political stunt

Com. Ghose appealed to the patriotic youth of the country, who were really confused, to think over whether those who spoke of socialism keeping intact capitalist exploitation and capitalist relations of production, were speaking about



Red Salute by the members of KOMSOMOL to Comrade Shibdas Ghose, General Secretary of the SUCI.

real socialism or were playing a political trick to befool the masses. He further added that in the name of socialism, nationalisation of industries was resorted to within the capitalist state structure; but the real motive in nationalising industries was to protect the crisis ridden capitalist economy, and socialism was never established in any country of the world by such measures. It must be remembered that nationalisation did not mean socialisation. It was impossible to move a step towards socialism without destroying the present capitalist relations of production and capitalist motive force of production, Com. Ghosh declared that the ruling Congress was serving the aggregate interest of monopoly capitalism in India by nationalisation of industries. So it was clear as daylight that however loud the Congress might shout with the slogans like 'garibi hatao' etc., they would never bring about socialism.

He added that what was possible, was to make a serious attempt to eradicate corruption, to restore whatever little relative administrative neutrality existed before, free the police from colonial heritage and reorient it in a democratic way and to practise and establish democratic norms in the society;

but the Congress had shown no desire to do any of these things.

Com. Ghose further stated that in order to save the country two vital tasks were to be accomplished. One of these tasks was to open the path of uninterrupted industrialisation of the country and the other was to modernise the agriculture of the country thereby creating real avenues for giving employment to crores and crores of unemployed persons now rotting. He said that some so-called pundits felt that the main problem of the country was the problem of paucity of capital. Had it been the main problem then why even the installed capacity of the industries was not being fully utilised? What was the hindrance to it? Com. Ghosh showed through analysis that the capitalist relations of production were acting as a brake to the productive forces and this was the main hurdle against industrialisation of the country. So, to talk of socialism without changing the capitalist relations of production and the capitalist motive force of production was a political stunt to befool the masses.

He further stated that what was necessary for radical land reforms was modernisation of agriculture by introducing scientific techniques

in agriculture. But if the modernisation of agriculture was attempted in the present capitalist system, it would immediately render thousands of people, now attached anyhow to land, unemployed and when there was already a vast army of the unemployed, one could easily imagine the complexity of the problem that would be created by such attempt in a capitalist system. If no jobs were available to these people it was impossible for the ruling class to undertake the task of modernisation of agriculture. In order to increase the employment potentiality, industrialisation must be uninterrupted; but uninterrupted industrialisation of the country was not possible because of the present capitalist relation of production. The present capitalist production relations were the main obstacle in the path of unhindered industrialisation of the country. The bourgeois leaders would never admit it but it is the duty of the Marxists-Leninists to tell our people this hard reality.

The necessity of new values, consciousness and ethical standard in left movement

Com. Ghosh asked every left and democratic minded person to seriously ponder (Contd. to page 4)

CPI(M) Disrupted the U.F. and Raised the Slogan of Class Based Front

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how it had become possible that when the Congress was buried not only in West Bengal but throughout India and a new vista before the oppressed people was being opened through the politics of the United Front of the left and democratic forces, which was an alternative to the Congress politics, this process was reversed within a very short time and the Congress got rejuvenated and staged a counter-revolutionary upsurge with such a great force.

He in a spirit of criticism and self-criticism said that he had said in various meetings and expressed in many writings that no fundamental change could be brought about under the present set-up by capturing governmental power.

But even in the present set-up certain tasks could be accomplished. These the left democratic parties should do. These were to imbibe the various sections of the people with newer social values and raise their cultural level and political and democratic consciousness. These were essential to bring about a revolutionary change within the country. With this aim in view attempts should be made to create a democratic atmosphere. It should be realised that blindness, party fanaticism and philosophical intolerance about others' views and attempts to resolve ideological political questions by resorting to violent means and administrative measures created favourable conditions for the advent of fascism. When left democratic parties practised them they would, might be unknowingly, help facism to grow. When the CPI(M) committed these mistakes its functioning in the United Front in West Bengal and we criticised them for these mistakes we were

branded as disruptionists. It could not be denied that the struggle against the main enemy was suspended and in the name of class struggles the CPI(M) took recourse to annihilating the other partners of the United Front by physical force. The fanaticism, blindness, intolerance, vague idea about socialism and very low cultural and ethical standard of the cadres might give some immediate dividend to a party but these would ultimately help the uprising of the reactionary force either directly or indirectly. What was necessary for the development of revolutionary movement was to develop a scientific mental make-up, to inculcate scientific thinking and to conduct ideological struggles. The CPI(M), the largest partner of the United Front, being intoxicated with power and guided by left opportunistic thinking,—the characteristic of a petty bourgeois parliamentary party—refused to recognise the historical necessity of the United Front of left democratic parties in the present stage of development of democratic movement and raised the slogan of class based front. At that time we showed that this-class based front was nothing but rubbish and cautioned about the dangerous consequences that would follow such a wrong proposition. We said then that had the CPI(M) been a really Marxist-Leninist Party then they would not have disrupted the unity of the UF. The logical conclusion of their slogan for class-based front was that the phase of struggle had reached the stage of final seizure of power. But instead of doing so, they, raising the slogan of class-based front, simultaneously demanded for election. Such behaviour proved the utter political bankruptcy



The members of KOMSOMOL are parading along Chowringhee Road and approaching the Maidan

and self-contradiction of the CPI(M). Today they were completely silent about the slogan of class-based front they then raised and were again, talking of the United Front politics and the necessity of the united struggles. Had the CPI(M) been a real Marxist-Leninist party then it would have admitted its previous mistake, without any reservation, before the masses.

The leadership of a revolutionary party essential in the united struggle

Com. Ghosh said that the people were gradually getting disillusioned about the Congress. Popular resentment could not be suppressed any longer by false propaganda or by oppression. A massive united left democratic movement was going to be built up very soon on the burning problems confronting the people, every one was feeling the necessity of united struggle. So this broader left and democratic united struggle must be built up by all means. But the question of protecting the unity of the left democratic parties and

forces, of building massive united struggles, making them broader and still broader and leading them to their logical culmination was inseparably linked up with the question of emergence of the leadership of a really Marxist-Leninist revolutionary party over the masses and mass movements. So, before placing any particular party in the leading position of the united struggle, people must examine—not on the basis of its organisational strength or day-to-day slogans of the party—but on the basis of its politics whether that party was a really Marxist-Leninist party or not.

Com. Ghosh also showed the utter failure of the CPI(M), in analysing the character of the present Indian state and that of the ruling party and in evaluating the present economic, social and political condition of the country by citing the different political resolutions of the CPI(M). Com. Ghosh continued that these instances proved conclusively that the CPI(M) was a petty

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Build Up United Struggle Against Fascism

Com. Subodh Banerjee's Call to Workers at May Day Rally

On the historic occasion of May Day, a mammoth rally was held at Saheed Minar Maidan at the call of four central Trade Unions—the UTUC (Lenin Sarani), the CITU, the UTUC (Bowbazar) and the TUCC—with Mohd. Ismail in the chair. Several thousand workers and employees from Calcutta and suburban districts participated in the rally.

Sri Monoranjan Roy moved the main resolution at the meeting. The resolution dwelt elaborately on problems like acute unemployment, steep price-rise, country-wide power shortage leading to mass-scale lay-off, closure, lock-out and retrenchment and expressed grave concern at the growing fascist attack by capitalist-Congress-police combine on workers and employees and other sections of the toiling millions. The resolution urged upon all democratic forces in general, and workers and employees in particular, to launch united movement against this ever-growing fascist onslaught on people's democratic rights and democratic movements.

Speaking in support of the resolution Comrade Subodh Banerjee, Vice-President, All India UTUC (Lenin Sarani), explained how the ruling Congress, under the garb of "progressiveness" and raising such slogans as "garibi hatao" was actually trying to bring about fascism in our country.

The Indira Congress, he said, is serving the aggregate interest of the ruling capitalist class. Explaining, he added, the ruling party has raised a great hullabaloo about the nationalisation of a few banks and take-over of coal mines and tried to paint these as "steps towards socialism". Nationalisation of industries in a capitalist set-up, he said, is resorted to with a view, on the hand, to minimise the mutual competition among the capitalists and, on the other hand, to consolidate the capitalist economy itself.

In this connection, he pointed out that some of the big parties and a section of the intellectuals have

also been confused by these fascist steps and some of them even went so far as to welcome these fascist steps of Indira Congress as "a progressive measure," "one step" forward", etc. He referred to the great teachings of Com. Shibdas Ghosh, one of the foremost Marxist thinkers of the age and said that though there is a popular notion prevailing even among the communists that fascism can appear only in developed capitalist countries, the reality is that in the present-day world situation, when capitalism has lost the relative stability of market it used to enjoy even before the Second world war, bourgeoisie throughout the capitalist world, whether in developed or in under-developed countries are increasingly resorting to fascism as the most convenient political structure to serve the capitalist class interest.

Citing lessons from teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, Comrade Subodh Banerjee said, fascism is an all-out counter-revolutionary upsurge. While in the economic field it is being manifested in the growing consolidation of economic power through emergence of state monopoly capital and coalescence of private monopoly capital and state monopoly capital thereby making the state subservient to the interest of monopoly capital, in the political sphere it is marked by increasing negation of civil liberties and democratic freedom, completely shattering in its process the last vestiges of administrative neutrality and reducing the entire governmental administration into a mere appendage of the ruling clique. In the social and cultural sphere,

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bourgeois parliamentary party.

Com. Ghosh also showed the self-contradiction in the political resolutions adopted by the CPI(M) and the day-to-day utterances of the party in meetings and press statements from the various organs of the CPI(M).

Com. Ghosh elaborately dealt on the stand of the SUCI and explained why the stage of Indian revolution was anti-capitalist socialist and appealed to every section of the toiling people to strengthen this party which provided correct and scientific leadership on all national and international questions in the ideological field. Com. Ghosh said that however noble and correct the ideology of the party might be, this could not lead the masses and the mass movements unless the party acquired necessary organisational strength to do it. So he fervently appealed to all to strengthen by all means the SUCI—the only Marxist-Leninist revolutionary party in India.

fascism brings about a fusion of technological knowledge with spiritualist ideals thereby blocking the way for development of a rational mental make-up based on scientific reasoning, simultaneously cultivating national jingoism, blind authoritarianism and obscurantist ideas.

All these facets of fascism are vividly manifest in our country, he said. He urged the people to take lessons from history and to come forward unitedly to build up a mighty movement against this growing menace of fascism.

In conducting these movements, he emphasised the need to build up the real revolutionary leadership of the working class in order to lead these struggles to their logical culmination.

Sri Jyoti Basu, Sri Chitta Basu M.P., Sri Jatin Chakravarty, Sri Sudhin Kumar and Sri Suhrid Mallik Chowdhuri also addressed the gathering.

Com. Nihar Mukherjee's Statement on MISA

Com. Nihar Mukherjee, the Secretary, West Bengal State Committee of SUCI, has issued the following statement to the Press:

"After the judgement of the Special Bench of the Supreme Court's declaring Section 17(A) of the MISA as unconstitutional, all persons detained under MISA should not only be released without any delay, they should also get full compensation for the period of illegal detention."

Shri Mukherjee has further demanded that the entire MISA along with other black Acts should be withdrawn forthwith to show respect to the minimum democratic rights and the principle of natural justice enjoyed by any citizen of a democratic country.

Shri Mukherjee has also called upon all the democratic-minded people to keep constant vigil against any foul attempt by the Government to circumvent this judgement in defiance of the democratic aspirations of the people.

Bihar SUC Statement on SP Leader's Death

Patna—Comrade Shankar Singh, Secretary, Bihar State Committee of SUCI, in a Press statement strongly condemned the Congress Government of Bihar, led by Kedar Panday, and the Bihar State Police for resorting to firing on the striking workers of Usha Martin at Tatisilwara (Ranchi) and for mercilessly beating to death Sri Surju Naryan Singh, MLA, a veteran freedom fighter and a respected Socialist Party leader.

Com. Shankar Singh demanded immediate judicial enquiry into the matter, exemplary punishment to the guilty officers and release of all persons arrested in this connection.

On the Occasion Of "MAY DAY" the Working Class Demands the Restoration Of the Unity Of the Socialist Camp

May Day is of great significance to the working people throughout the world. On this day the toiling people of Chicago created new history in the struggle against exploitation.

Since then the working class of the world achieved many victories and the first working class state was established through the great November Revolution.

After the establishment of the first working class state, the working class movement took a significant turn and the growing tide of the working class movement swept throughout the world, resulting in the establishment of socialism in a number of countries of the world, after the second world war. After the second world war, the emergence of a powerful socialist camp, the growing intensification of peace movement, national independence movement and revolutionary movement in colonies, semi-colonies and metropolitan countries and the growing crisis in capitalist economy put the imperialism on the defensive and the working class of the world was on the threshold of complete emancipation from the yoke of the capitalist exploitation. This favourable situation continued until Khrushchev came in the leadership of the CPSU when modern revisionism swept the world Communist movement, leading ultimately to disunity and rift in the world Communist Camp. This disunity and rift in the world Communist Camp created serious set-back in the revolutionary movements. Taking advantage of this set-back, the US imperialism, the leader of world reaction, stepped up its offensive against peace, national independence, democracy and socialism, making naked interference in the domestic affairs of other countries, exporting armed counter-revolution in their bid to forcibly crush national liberation movements in colonies and semi-colonies, starting local and partial wars

undermining national independence of the weaker nations and even carrying on armed aggression on socialist countries.

But in the face of consistently tough anti-imperialist and particularly anti-US imperialist policy pursued by China and other socialist countries who have kept themselves free from the revisionist influences, defeat of the US troops in the soil of Vietnam, the growing anti-war mood of the American people who were building up powerful anti-war movement within the USA and the complete collapse of the war-based economy of the USA resulting in the devaluation of the dollar, the US imperialists were forced to change over from the war manoeuvre to peace manoeuvre—the other edge of the same imperialist policy, bid good bye to the 'containment of China' policy, and to withdraw the troops from Indo-China to avert a total military defeat.

The defeat of the US policy of international gangsterism in Vietnam has opened up a new vista for the success of the national liberation movement in colonies and semi-colonies and revolutionary struggles in metropolitan countries. In such a situation the continuing disunity within the socialist camp and the failure on the part of the socialist countries to unitedly act against imperialism for further acceleration of national liberation movements and revolutionary struggle is all the more unfortunate. It is true that serious ideological differences exist among the different Communist parties of the world. These differences have got to be resolved through relentless ideological struggles on the basis of the correct communist norms. But in-

spite of these differences there is no earthly reason why united action by the socialist countries and the Communist parties can not be taken against imperialism, the common enemy of the mankind. So the working class of the world must strive to restore the unity of the world socialist camp on the basis of a common minimum programme of united action against imperialism. On this occasion of May Day the working class of the world must strive for achieving this urgent international task.

In the national sphere, the toiling people of India are subjected to ruthless exploitation of the capitalist class and their condition is getting impoverished every day. After the transfer of power in 1947 the Indian bourgeoisie have been in the saddle of power and attempting to strengthen and consolidate capitalism in our country. But in the era of moribund capitalism and proletarian revolution, when capitalism is in deep crisis, no capitalist planning can solve any of the basic problems of the society. So it is observed that when one new industry grows up, five other industrial units close down, rendering thousands of toiling people unemployed who join the existing army of unemployed to swell their rank into gigantic one. The toiling people of India must realise that the present ills of the country are solely due to the present exploiting capitalist system. Exploitation of the toiling people is not limited in economic field alone but they are also socially and culturally suppressed by the capitalist class. The religious revivalist ideas, rotten individualism and other prehistoric and reactionary culture of the bourgeoisie are being systematically spread to vitiate the whole social atmosphere. These vulgar and reactionary ideas stand as a great impediment to the growth of a

truly working class culture—which alone can provide the working people with a new vista of life. The toiling people who build up civilisation are made only wage labourers and the seeds of vulgar bourgeois culture are implanted in them. In the present era, the capitalist class is mortally afraid of the working class and so every possible attempt is made to create confusion in the working class movement.

The history of the working class movement in India, is replete with the history of betrayal of the cause of the working class by the big left parties. Even to-day when the ruling Congress party has been carrying India along the path of fascism which finds expression in the drive of the ruling party to nationalise industries in the aggregate interest of the Indian monopoly capitalism and active centralisation of capital, rapidly develop state capitalism and introduce state monopoly capitalism rock bottom foundation stone of fascism, the big left parties like the CPI and the CPI(M), instead of educating the masses about the real character of the Indira brand of socialism, painted these fascist measures of the Congress party as "radical" and 'progressive' and thus helped objectively in creating illusion about the ruling Congress in mass mind. On the other hand these parties, for petty sectarian party interests, adopted opportunist and disruptive lines which ultimately brought about the breakdown of the United Front. The ruling Congress took advantage of this situation and came to power in West Bengal through a completely rigged election. After coming to Governmental power the Congress is now engaged in liquidating the

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ILO Indicts Govt. of India on UTUC (Lenin Sarani) Case

Since the ruling Congress grabbed the governmental power through a farce of an election in 1972, naked torture and terror tactics were let loose on the fighting unions of the workers in factories and establishments of West Bengal. Active assistance of armed hoodlums, patronised by the ruling party, connivance of the Police and the Administration etc., have reduced minimum democratic freedom and right of trade unions to nullity. This fact has also been noted by an international body of labour,—ILO, of which the Indian Government is a member.

Workers of the Hindusthan Iron & Steel Works, Dum Dum, have been subjected to repeated armed attacks and various other sorts of vandalism for their steadfastness in holding aloft the banner of struggle of the U.T.U.C. (Lenin Sarani) even in this dark hour of reaction. A section of the I.N.T.U.C. leadership, with the ulterior object of smashing the militant trade unions affiliated with the U.T.U.C. (Lenin Sarani), raided the Union office at Dum Dum, set it on fire and forcibly occupied it, criminally assaulted dozens of union activists, leaders and organisers, extorted money from the Union members, obstructed leading organisers from entering the factory, created physical obstruction to the leaders of the union to run normal trade Union activities in and around the factory, etc. Even, Comrades Fatick Ghose and Sankar Saha, two distinguished leaders of the UTUC (Lenin Sarani) were manhandled by the same section of INTUC men in the prohibited area of Writers Buildings on 16th of August, last year, when they went there for talks in connection with labour dispute of the factory with the State Labour Minister, at the latter's call.

All these facts were intimated to both the State and Central governments through various representations but to no effect. It may be reminded in this connection that all these complaints were known to be true even

by the State Labour Minister and this remained no secret in the talks held at Writers Buildings, called at his initiative in presence of the representative of the paper-union led by a section of INTUC. Dr. Nag, the State Labour Minister, had, at the meeting of the State Labour Advisory Board, West Bengal, held on 11th and 19th September, last year, not only condemned the incident of Writers Buildings, perpetrated by a section of INTUC men "but also deplored the incident in which trade union organisations were attacked and trade union rights were being interfered with." He even invited suggestions from the trade union organisations as to how an improvement in the situation could be brought about. All these can be found in the printed Summary Proceedings of the meeting of the Labour Advisory Board, Government of West Bengal.

Comrade Fatick Ghose, General Secretary, West Bengal Committee of the UTUC (Lenin Sarani), brought all these facts to the notice of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), Geneva, as all these misdeeds done at the direct connivance of the Government of India amounted to gross violation of Convention 87 of 1948 regarding freedom of association and protection of the right to organise. The international body was requested to bring adequate pressure on the Indian Government, a member, to

abide by the convention in true letter and spirit.

Mr. N. Valticos, chief of the International Labour Standards Department in his letter of 9th March '73, has forwarded to the UTUC (Lenin Sarani) a copy of the 135th Report of the Committee on Freedom of Association which was approved by the Governing Body at its 189th Session (February-March 1973), at Geneva.

From the said report, the amount of shamelessness of the Indian Government has come to lurid light.

As regards the specific complaints recorded by the report of I.L.O. that "workers belonging to its a affiliated union, the Hindusthan Iron & Steel Company Workers Union had been subjected to armed attacks by members of the INTUC union with the support of the police and the administration" and "the union office was destroyed and workers and union leaders assaulted" and "the complicity of the police and the administration in these attacks",—the Government of India remained silent when specific enquiries were made by the international organisation. The Government of India, however, have said in their reply to the I.L.O. that the factory had been declared closed by the management but it was reopened after a tri-partite agreement was signed at the initiative of the State Government and that some 2,000 workmen were kept outside the factory even after the agreement, but they would be taken back in phased manner and this decision of the management could be made possible only at the intervention of the State Government! Strange indeed!! Besides, the foolish tricks of sidetracking the main points, it is also not a fact that 2,000 workmen got back their jobs out of grace of the Government. They won back their jobs through grim

struggle, braving the armed onslaughts of a section of 'fascist stormtroopers' patronised by the ruling party, the police and the administration.

The Government of India's other part of reply was 'whenever any specific case of forcible occupation of trade union premises by rival trade unions was formally reported prompt actions were taken by the authorities concerned in the form of investigation or enquiries and reference of disputes to conciliation and adjudication.'

This is sheer nonsense. The truth is that, about a year after the formal complaint and several reminders as regards burning and forcible occupation of Dum-Dum office of the UTUC (Lenin Sarani), the Government have done nothing for its handing over to Hindusthan Iron and Steel Workers Union.

But all these antics of the Government could not befooled the international organisation. They invited the Government of India to submit their replies to the specific complaints at the meeting of the Committee on Freedom of Association. Even after repeated change of dates the Government of India failed to send its representative. The Committee of ILO has therefore submitted its report and sent it to the complainant trade Unions—UTUC (Lenin Sarani) CITU, Calcutta State Transport Union as well as to the Government of India.

In the said report, the Committee has observed that Indian Government which is a member of ILO (and sends delegation to its conference every year) have not yet ratified the two very important conventions of this international organisation. These are, Convention 87 of 1948 regarding the freedom of association and protection of

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FOOTPRINTS OF FASCISM ?

The above four pictures depict how the opposition parties are treated in Congress democracy. A large number of such wall-writings and posters as depicted above, announcing the 25th anniversary rally of the SUC at Saheed Minar Maidan on 24th April, have either been totally blackened or partially smeared. And the name of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh appeared to be the main target of these "democratic" hoodlums of the ruling Congress party. They will not allow any opposition party to carry on that normal day-to-day functions, not even the minimum propaganda campaign.

During the month-long campaign preceding 24th April, Congress gangsters in Calcutta and suburban towns

and even in remote villages resorted to wide-scale violence and terror to prevent SUC workers from holding propaganda squads, writing wall-posters and putting up street banners announcing the SUC Day rally at Maidan.

In various places of West Bengal the fascist Congress goondas raided and attacked SUC meetings which were held as part of the month-long state-wide propaganda campaign, in their attempt to foil the meetings. At several places they even went to the extent of physically attacking and assaulting SUC leaders and organisers. The incident at Kultali in 24 Parganas on 5th April in which Comrades Subodh Banerjee, the former Minister, Probodh Purkait, a former MLA, and Naren

Bhandary, a local teacher, were detained for full five hours and the latter two were assaulted, has already been published in the Press. At Burnpur, two SUC workers, Comrades Pulak and Sekhar were attacked by Congress goondas while they were pasting posters on 23rd April and were severely assaulted and injured.

And in these jobs the Congress hoodlums received adequate support and co-operation from the police.

Perhaps the Congress goondas thought they would wipe out SUC by wiping out its posters and banners. The people of West Bengal gave them a befitting reply by rallying in thousands at the SUC rally on 24th April at Maidan as it could be seen in the picture at page 1.

ANTI-LABOUR POLICY OF GOVT. STANDS EXPOSED

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the right to organise and, Convention 98 of 1949 regarding right to organise and collective bargaining!

These are but the very cornerstone of a democratic society. But the Government, that talks of socialism and workers' rights, have not yet recognised its firm obligation to maintenance of these minimum democratic rights. The real face of the Government therefore stands exposed before the international body of labour.

The Committee has made an important observation

which may be said to be the summary of its findings about the complaints. It says, "it would appear, however, from the detailed informations supplied by the complainant that although the Government was aware of the frequency and gravity of the attacks on the members and the property of these organisations, intervention on the part of the authorities was often inadequate to ensure protection of trade union rights." It has therefore drawn the attention of the Government of India to its detailed observations so that similar actions

are not perpetrated on trade union organisations affiliated to UTUC (Lenin Sarani) and CITU in future.

The UTUC (Lenin Sarani) West Bengal State Committee, it is learnt, will again present detailed submission on fresh attacks on trade union rights to the ILO and will press for its demand to get the ratification of the two important conventions by the Indian Government so that it becomes obligatory on its part to protect minimum trade union rights in the Country.

Without Revolutionary Leadership, the Emancipation of the Toiling People not Possible

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left and democratic forces. Threats, intimidation, violence, murder, loot, forcible capture of unions and party offices of opposition parties have become the order of the day. Police today has become the hired forces of the Jotedars and moneybags. Under the present situation, for the development of the working class movement, it is necessary to imbibe the masses with democratic consciousness, sense of values, morality and fighting zeal with a view to restoring democratic rights in the relative sense and organise the left democratic united mass forces under the leadership of a really working class revolutionary party. The big left parties like the CPI and the CPI(M) have not only been establishing themselves as petti-bourgeois opportunist parties but also been creating serious impediments in the path of development of correct political ideas among the masses. So the present situation demands the development of united mass movements on agreed programme against vested interest and reaction on one hand and the establishment of the leadership of a genuine working class party over this united movement on the other hand. So on the occasion of May Day the toiling people of our country must take this pledge of strengthening the SUCI—the real working class party in India led by Com. Shibdas Ghosh—one of the outstanding Marxist-Leninist thinkers of the age so that this party the SUCI—is at the helm of left democratic movements of our country.